

**Summary of Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of  
the Commerce, Industry and Housing Committee (2014-2015)**

**Meeting**

The Commerce, Industry and Housing Committee (“CIHC”) held its 4<sup>th</sup> meeting on 9 June 2014.

**Occupation of Government Land by Altered Shopping Centre of The Link Management Limited (“The Link”)?**

2. Views expressed by Members on the alternation works carried out by The Link in On Ting Commercial Complex included: it was opined that the important access for tens of thousands of residents should not be enclosed; The Link’s consultation arrangements for the alternation works were considered far from comprehensive; it was pointed out that wheelchair users found it difficult to make their way through the steep walkway in On Ting Commercial Complex; a covered walkway was requested to be reconstructed to address the CIHC’s concern properly; the relevant government departments were considered to have failed to perform their duties of supervision, and it was worried that similar problems might arise in other projects of The Link; it was opined that the criteria for approving works should be revised based on residents’ needs and the Tuen Mun District Council (“TMDC”)’s views; The Link was requested to submit a work plan, and it was considered that the costs for walkway reconstruction should be borne by The Link rather than by the Housing Department (“HD”) with public funds; and it was dissatisfied that the TMDC’s notice board had been removed by The Link during the works without prior notice to the TMDC and its Secretariat, and an explanation was called for.

3. In addition, the CIHC endorsed the formation of the non-standing Working Group on Monitoring of Alternation Works of The Link to follow up on matters related to The Link’s alternation works, and the continuation of the discussion of this item at the next meeting.

**Buildings Department (“BD”) Turning a Blind Eye to Unauthorised Signboards and Ignoring Safety of Pedestrians**

4. The CIHC was concerned about the burden of handling unauthorised signboards on flat owners and owners’ corporations of buildings. It was hoped that the provision of enhanced support and education on matters related to handling unauthorised signboards would be considered.

**HD’s Action Plan for Management Work of Public Rental Housing in Tuen Mun in 2014**

5. The CIHC commented on the HD’s action plan and various management matters, which covered recreational facilities in housing estates, illegal hawking, lift replacement and maintenance, water seepage in shopping centres and rental arrangements of bank premises, etc. Moreover, Members expressed concerns about disputes over management of Tenants Purchase Scheme Estates, barrier-free facilities, schedule for drying rack replacement, transfer arrangements and interior alternation arrangements, etc.

## **Work Reports by Working Groups under CIHC**

### **(a) Working Group on Occupational Safety and Health**

6. Members noted the contents of the report of the Working Group.

### **(b) Working Group on Economic Development in Tuen Mun**

7. A Member urged the Working Group to follow up on the proposals made in the last Working Group's "Study Report on the Future Directions of Industry and Commerce in Tuen Mun". In addition, he pointed out that the Working Group had spent the DC funds of up to \$180,000 on activities relating to unleashing labour force, leaving insufficient resources for the other working groups. He hoped that the Working Group would ensure the funds were well spent.

8. The convenor responded that all functional committees had been allocated less funds in this financial year, for which no committee or working group should be held individually responsible. Moreover, the Working Group had summarised Members' comments on this report for reference in future activities, and therefore it would not take any further follow-up action. In the area of unleashing labour force, a programme of activities would be developed in consultation with relevant government departments and organisations.

### **(c) Working Group on Building Management**

9. In response to a Member's suggestion of inviting Butterflies Association Limited ("Butterflies") to be a partner organisation of activities at the meeting of the Working Group, the CIHC was of the view that the invitation list for partner organisations should be drafted by the Tuen Mun District Office ("TMDO") or the Secretariat in accordance with the established practice. Thus, it disagreed with the inclusion of Butterflies in the list by the Working Group.

## **Work Report on Private Building Management in Tuen Mun District**

10. Members noted the contents of the report of the TMDO.

### **Report by BD**

11. A Member was concerned that statutory notices had still not been served on the owners of a housing estate that had received a pre-notification letter from the Independent Checking Unit ("ICU") under the Mandatory Building and Window Inspection Schemes after a period of time. The representative of the ICU responded that the statutory notices would be issued later due to shortage of manpower.

Secretariat, Tuen Mun District Council

Date: 27 June 2014

Ref: HAD TM DC/13/30/CIHC/2